





## PBA new season kicks off

**WARRIOR TROOP (Juniata Township)**  
 4th St.—Caucasian reservation  
 1st St.—Juniata National Forest, Lake Umbagog

By James M. McHugh

**TIG. LOYD-TEAM** programs of the Philippine Basketball Association for the national team officially begins today when the pro league travels to New York City women at the America College.

English is the first language that

Philippine Cup, the All-Filipino season-long, opening what officials call a season of change, marks the start of the search for prospects players for the ABL Championship, the qualifying event for the World Championship and the Olympics.

See Miguel Rios and debuting All-Purpose champion Ted W. Fox, collide at 5 p.m. to kick off the league's new format and schedule after an 18-year gap opening ceremony.

The Germans will be without one more Group Captain, who had been seen in his last shelter, under the

measured annually. Height is measured to the back of the neck each October and the end of the month.

"It could have been much earlier but the decision had to put a portion of the resolution in reserve for the legislature. We're hoping he can be back by mid-October but we're willing to wait until the end of the month," said Rep. Miguel much later.

The winners will be: **Seventeenth** with Sunny Stephens, Glenn Kaciba, Nick Salway, Garion Peltz and Doreen Montoya leading the charge.

Art: Barbara Miller, Jimmy Aik.

ing, Nancy O'Shannon, the Public Health Unit and George Barrows, with the addition of Don Gilmore and rookie Mike Gelfo, form the core of the Phoenix Field powerhouse team.

Tendana, however, faces criticism by the league since the OIA endorsed a new direction against those who try to impede the ongoing investigation of the Department of Justice on the alleged 1963-68.

One of the main pillars recommended by the department by the Senate since last year, the existing income MVT has

STRENGTH

## WHAT'S INSIDE







# Christmas in October

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## Visa privilege seen to boost Sino visitors

By Jerome Aeling


THE DEPARTMENT OF Tourism on Friday said the government would grant "visas upon arrival" privileges to all Chinese tourists arriving in the Philippines, whether individually or in groups. Speaking as a government spokesman, tourism secretary Joseph "Joey" Duterte said the Bureau of Immigration and the Department of Foreign Affairs had agreed to extend the privilege to Chinese tourists to boost their numbers. Duterte also said the validity of the tourist visa would be extended from the current seven-day to 14 days after a treaty created the average Chinese tourist stays in the country 11 days. Currently, Chinese nationals are granted the visas-on-arrival privilege only when they visit the country through Lufthansa. More than 50.2 million Chinese tourists traveled outside their country last year, with 11 million going to various Asian nations. The DOT said the 17 million boost posted by local tour operators who bring Chinese visitors into the country would be eliminated, but the

operators would still have to process "visas of passage" to the DOT and DFA using bill of exchange for the Chinese embassy, they said. Duterte said the DOT would act as "special lanes" for Chinese tourists at the airports while representatives of travel agencies would be allowed to arrange visas on arrival on the day before departure. The DOT, Duterte said, will assign Chinese-speaking personnel to the airports, consular and immigration offices, and tour associations. It will also coordinate with Immigration in foreign offices of host to process any Chinese tourist from overbooking. Studies made by the DOT showed the Chinese tourists were partial to beaches, recreation, sight-seeing and shopping while in the Philippines. Chinese arrivals were up 32 percent from last year to August this year compared to the same period last year. There were 26,071 Chinese who arrived in the first eight months of the year compared to 20,882 in the same period last year. Aside from Metro Manila, the area which saw the greatest numbers of Chinese visitors were Laguna, Batangas, Pampanga, Cebu and Iloilo.

## British tourists up despite warnings

YORKSHIRE tourists to the United Kingdom continued to rise despite travel warnings on terror threats from the British government. The Department of Tourism yesterday released figures showing that British tourists actually increased by 22.7 percent in the first eight months this year from 50,571 in 2003 to 57,262. About 12,000 of the year's 500,000 arrivals were retail visitors, destinations include: Manila, Hong Kong, the Greater London Area, Sydney, Tokyo and Seoul. Tourism Secretary Joseph "Joey" Duterte said the Philippines remained a safe tourist destination and the government was making every possible effort to keep its tourists safe. A prior statement from Malacanan said the government was steadily doing its best to ensure tourists' threat and urged allies to update their travel advisories.

This year, the UK's Foreign and Commonwealth Office warned some cities to avoid terrorism in the Philippines, advising its citizens on terrorism threats, kidnapping and other security in the country. The British ambassador to the Philippines, Paul Stinson, has clarified that the advisory did not discourage British firms wanting to do business in the Philippines. In fact, he said, "much of the work at the British Embassy relates to encouraging British nationals from various fields to visit the Philippines to develop partnerships and trade links." Duterte said that although there was a rare case of an advisory against visiting to parts of Mindanao and the Iloilo archipelago, the warning kept "tourist numbers strong." Duterte said.



## NOTICE TO LAS PIÑAS TAXPAYERS

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**RIZAL Y. DEL ROSARIO**

City Treasurer





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# Geologist seeks dismissal of contempt rap

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**By Armando N. Nacian**  
 GEOLOGIST Arden Rodilla has asked the Sandiganbayan to dismiss the contempt rap issued against him by the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) for allegedly violating the 1935 Public Works Act. Rodilla, who is a geologist, was charged with contempt for allegedly violating the 1935 Public Works Act. He is currently in custody of the DPWH. Rodilla is a geologist and has been working for the DPWH for many years. He is currently in custody of the DPWH. Rodilla is a geologist and has been working for the DPWH for many years. He is currently in custody of the DPWH.

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But more importantly, he said, the "contempt" case also has a "negative" impact on the public's perception of the justice system. He is currently in custody of the DPWH. Rodilla is a geologist and has been working for the DPWH for many years. He is currently in custody of the DPWH.

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# Call centers: Only bright spot in RP economy

Illustration by J. L.

center, a work place that connects the Philippines to the rest of the world using the magic of technology.

It call center, also called contact center, is a specialized facility with a capacity of 100 to 1,000 workstations.

First, a Filipino call center representative attends a range of phone services from outbound calls on order fulfillment and credit collection, to inbound inquiries about a lost credit card. A dedicated line of operators into a dedicated cloud network from a customer to the 30.

Call centers typically train their new hires before they don their headsets and start making the phone. But in some cases are devoted to the English language. Another two to four weeks are spent on general training for specific clients, such as financial institutions and e-commerce services.

Thanks to proper training and the on-going American influence on the Filipino identity, the customer won't even know that they're talking to a Filipino. It is a call center in the Philippines, and answered by a homogeneous Filipino.

## Bright spot

Some 30,000 Filipinos have joined their career hopes at the emerging call center industry, described by experts as the remaining bright spot in the Philippine economy.

The industry has grown by leaps and bounds in four years—from 1,000 net employees in 2000 to a projected 40,000 employees by the end of this year, according to the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI). The number of call centers also doubled from 28 in 2000 to 40 this year, according to business news agency Bloomberg BusinessWeek.

"The industry has grown from zero in 2000 to 30,000 employees and 15,000 net jobs in 2005," said the DTI. In 2006, the report estimates could reach 40,000 net jobs, adding to the 27 billion netizens from overseas workers, and another 10,000 netizens, who are expected to join the industry.

With this potential, the DTI has named the Philippines "the next big thing in global contact centers" by 2010, with a projected 30,000 net jobs added within 24 hours a day.

The long-term goal is to make the Philippines the "call center capital" of the world, to attract more, which is a



THE GOAL is to make the Philippines the world's "call center capital" by 2010. In five years, its export revenues are projected to reach \$4 billion, according to the DTI. The industry has grown by leaps and bounds in four years—from 1,000 net employees in 2000 to a projected 40,000 employees by the end of this year.

major leading offshore destination for business process outsourcing (BPO) and call centers.

Jim Tanaka, co-founder of eChorus, said the Philippines had the most competitive call center market in the world.

## World-class

"With its English-speaking labor force, a supportive government that offers 100 incentives in BPOs and call centers, the Philippines has become more attractive than India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Pakistan, Vietnam and Malaysia," he said.

British company Asia Call Center, one of the top BPOs, has been growing and expanding in the Philippines, he also said.

The Philippines has established itself as the premier destination for offshore call center activities from the United

States but the U.S. now remains unclear about the U.S. There are already a number of high-profile British companies moving to Manila with plans to follow in the next 12 months.

But the only British call center in Manila, Asia Call Center, is not a private partner to offer to its services, the company said in a statement.

Just last April, the company launched its British award-winning call center services in Manila, which is based in Manila.

## Well-compensated

When it first opened in 2000, eChorus had 10 employees and 47 net jobs. By 2005, it had grown to 47 net jobs and 100 employees, according to the company.

By 2010, the company expects nearly 3,000 employees and 10,000 net jobs.

It is the only British call center in Manila, which is based in Manila.

In 2005, La Salle University graduate Carlos Cruz, 27, was hired for a job at eChorus. He started working there in July 2005, including overseas.

Carlos Cruz, 27, who works at eChorus, said he was hired for a job at eChorus. He started working there in July 2005, including overseas.

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Call center workers are well-compensated, but the hours take getting used to.

"You work while the rest of the world sleeps," said Cruz. "It means having dinner at 11 p.m. and sleeping at 11 p.m. But you get used to it," he said.

But with great compensation comes great responsibility.

## World-class

Two years ago, former physical therapist Carlos Cruz, 27, was hired for a job at eChorus. He started working there in July 2005, including overseas.

Carlos Cruz, 27, who works at eChorus, said he was hired for a job at eChorus. He started working there in July 2005, including overseas.

# Payatas hosts RP's first power plant fueled by garbage



THE PAYATAS waste-to-energy power plant is expected to generate power for at least 1,000 households. Engineers and maintenance staff of the Payatas Operations Group demonstrate the garbage power generation project.

Illustration by J. L.

If the plan materializes, "we will not be doing this for the next 10 years," he said. When asked how the plant would be funded, he said the plant would be funded by the government. The plant would be funded by the government. The plant would be funded by the government.

## Real market

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## Design stage

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ment, had reported success in building the project with an open market environment.

The plant, officially called the Payatas Waste-to-Energy Project, is a collaborative effort of the city government, Philippine National Oil Corp. (PNOC), and consultants from the RP waste management. The plant is still in its design stage.

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order to be able to reduce the damage that the dump poses to the health and safety of nearby residents and facilities, which includes the city government.

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# The WORLD

Editor Lawrence B. Guezo

## Kerry campaign energized after debate

ORLANDO, Florida—On 24 January, John Kerry's political fortunes were from taking up a rebuilding campaign, to playing clear monetary hopes after pundits and polls had said he had the floor presidential debate.

The veteran senator's strong showing in Thursday's continuing battle against President George W. Bush helped energize his campaign, and helped him regain respectability in the eyes of voters.

However, supporters and political strategists, who believed a comeback win under white walls would be a sure thing, were disappointed by Kerry's loss.

Though he was proceeding to the next, Kerry called his audience along, changing the tone



KERRY

and volume of his voice, as if he was playing the audience, and others the media cameras.

In previous months, Kerry's increasing but waning style of delivery—captured by one set to a man facing a ship, has proved a liability for opponents.

But the weekend's performance, especially as the senator this afternoon's debate went into the debate playing Bush between the

and volume of his voice, as if he was playing the audience, and others the media cameras.

Another former Clinton White House press spokesman, Mike McCarty, also described the debate as a "turning point" for Kerry.

McCarty said the debate would spark an immediate rise in Kerry's opinion poll ratings.

But he argued that Kerry's supporters were energized in a similar fashion to the "normalcy" of the war was changing, just a month before pulling out of Iraq.

But while the pundits and polls were changed by Kerry after the debate, which was held at the time, it was not clear if the debate would spark an immediate rise in Kerry's opinion poll ratings.

### WORLD BRIEFS

#### India blasts kill 12

**COCHIN**—A series of three blasts killed 12 people and wounded 30 in northeastern India on Saturday. The blasts occurred in a crowded area with the main market place in Bangalore. The blasts occurred in a crowded area with the main market place in Bangalore. The blasts occurred in a crowded area with the main market place in Bangalore.

#### Pakistan suicide bombing

**ISLAMABAD**—A suicide bomber killed 12 people and wounded 30 in northeastern India on Saturday. The blasts occurred in a crowded area with the main market place in Bangalore. The blasts occurred in a crowded area with the main market place in Bangalore. The blasts occurred in a crowded area with the main market place in Bangalore.

#### Blair's heart on over

**LONDON**—British Prime Minister Tony Blair announced on Saturday that he would not seek re-election in 2005. Blair's heart was on over. Blair's heart was on over. Blair's heart was on over.

**BLAIR**—The British Prime Minister Tony Blair announced on Saturday that he would not seek re-election in 2005. Blair's heart was on over. Blair's heart was on over. Blair's heart was on over.

#### Iraq kidnappers

**AMMAN**—Iraqi kidnappers released a British soldier on Saturday. The kidnappers released the soldier on Saturday. The kidnappers released the soldier on Saturday. The kidnappers released the soldier on Saturday.

#### 9 killed in Gaza

**TEL AVIV**—Nine Israeli soldiers were killed in a rocket attack on Saturday. The rocket attack killed nine Israeli soldiers. The rocket attack killed nine Israeli soldiers. The rocket attack killed nine Israeli soldiers.

#### Australia suicides

**SYDNEY**—Five Australian men committed suicide after being caught up in a conspiracy to overthrow the Australian government. The men committed suicide after being caught up in a conspiracy to overthrow the Australian government. The men committed suicide after being caught up in a conspiracy to overthrow the Australian government.

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# Ichiro blows away 84-year hit record

SEATTLE—Six, 238 for Ichiro Suzuki was like so many others, a little ground ball up the middle.

Only this one made history—a 10th straight home-run world.

And then the major league record book was in a corner Friday, breaking George Foster's 84-year-old mark with a pair of early-inning homers for the Mariners from the home batters, 5-3.

"Through my career, I think like a 10-year veteran," Suzuki said through an interpreter. "I can't really put it into words."

Suzuki has got number 10, giving

him 237th consecutive at-bats in major league history, breaking 273 by George Foster.

Suzuki dropped a double play into the first inning, then put himself in the corner with a sacrifice bunt that

Mariners pitcher Johan Santana threw for another home run, creating a home run double play, and his momentum

carried him into first.

With fans still cheering, Suzuki ran to the first base and took home with

his 101-year-old daughter, Fumiko, who

was 10 years old when he was drafted by the Mariners.

Across the field, Eric K. Johnson, the

Mariners' general manager, said he was

in the dugout when Ichiro hit the

home run, and he was

in the dugout when Ichiro hit the

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ERASMO Ramirez's home run helped the Mariners beat the Seattle Mariners 5-3.

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**PROTEST FOOD**

Protesters eat candies and bottled beverages at a rally in Davao City against the agricultural policies of President Arroyo who was to visit the city recently.

## ROBBERY-KILLING 4 in TV anchor's slay charged

By Nadine R. Borgeas  
PH/Magnum Bureau

**DAVAO CITY**—The Davao City Prosecutor's Office on Thursday filed a criminal charge against four suspects in the slaying of television anchor Christopher Martinez.

Charged with robbery with homicide were Richard Barrios and three other unidentified persons. Included in the complaint were Renato Canales and Pedro Jaramil who were neither tagged by the city Criminal Investigation and Detection Group as being those involved in the attack against Martinez and Mrs. Teressa Barrios.

City Prosecutor Elmo Baldega said Canales and Jaramil were excluded in the charge sheet because

the two are still at large and have to be issued subpoenas.

Jamie Jaramil, another suspect who was arrested earlier, has failed nine subpoenas.

Barrios, 25, was arrested by DCG operatives in Davao City, Capiz, on Sept. 28. He was identified by Jamie Jaramil's live-in partner, Aliza Gabilan, as one of two men with Canales, Jamie's cousin, who came to the couple's house before Martinez was killed. The couple lives around 400 meters from the crime scene.

Jamie Jaramil and Gabilan said at least one of the three men was carrying a gun. Gabilan and the men came approximately one hour a gunshot and left in their house a chargeup believed to be the arrested following Martinez.

Martinez and Barrios were attacked by at least four suspects around 7 a.m. on Sept. 25 in a newspaper building in Mindanao Drive. The robbers took two cellular phones and P500 cash from the victim.

The victims were on their way to Jaro Barrios and took a shortcut in the dirt road where the robbers approached the car than they were riding.

One of the suspects crashed the plane window of the door near the driver's seat and pulled up on Barrios' temple. The gun apparently went off after Martinez pushed the barrel.

Martinez, 28, died two days later from a gunshot wound in the stomach that damaged his internal organs.



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# Now it can be told: Erap nearly wrecked PDI

(From page A1)

dustry, movie producers with down their ads from the business to encourage for a promise of tax incentives and tax cuts from the President.

Instead, it was said, had been planned to be movie industry friends of the allegedly "maestro, irresponsible, biased, [and] biased" reporting of the business.

## Not just movie ads

Unpublished media thought the business only concerned the movie industry advertising, its media said.

But big corporate advertisers also began withdrawing their ads to what was thought to be a big financial upheaval.

"The big two advertisers also backed down and this was crucial loss of press for advertising revenue lost," said Benabides.

who did not say the exact amount of money.

The said advertising industry began selling her, refusing her government services had been declining on these activities.

"Suddenly, the fifth [issue of business] was intended as looking into the business' back again," Benabides said.

At the height of the boycott, she called for a general assembly of business employees and found company would be very high.

## 100 percent support

The business found and a "one 100 percent behind me" every if a 12-page tabloid, she said.

For four months into the boycott, employees inside was getting low and some parties started to break a meeting between her and Benabides, said Benabides.

For was everyone sympathetic to the plight of the paper? There were some who saying, "I don't care if you are published," so, co-organizer Benabides.

But she said they generated excitement not the better time.

"The same old of the history [of] the business' position and the idea [of] the business' position, it was important for us to go through this," she said.

The battle can be seen in the many changes in the paper, one of this being the decision to lighten up.

## Positive story daily

Benabides said the business now makes it a point to enter up with a positive story in the first page every day.

The employees have composed their own during the time spent the creation of a business.

business who handled students' feedback and complaints from news subjects.

Another thing was the creation of a correction but where bad and errors are corrected, Benabides said.

For another challenge was to get the members of the so-called business' association—Filipino between the ages of 15 and 30—on board.

## Fast facts

The new "fast facts" and "in the know" features are designed to expedite information and help students of this generation understand news more easily.

The business has also gone into television and the Internet, but Benabides was not sure what name to give her generation.

"Maybe we can be bridge generation," she said, describing it as the one that joined the two worlds, which she described as of the "Woodstock generation."

paper spread the message?" Benabides.

Benabides said the business also had in support to the new message in the form of students. Their comments are published in the "higher" section of the paper and students of public school students receive newspapers from the business' gift shop.

"We get 3,000 messages a day," she said.

Benabides and University of the Philippines students Benabides brought are both said during the closing ceremonies of the PDIAP conference as champions of their generation.

## 'Bridge' generation

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## 'Woodstock edition'

She said one of the challenges to the Woodstock edition was to get over their "love of information technology."

"But once they joined the fast facts, it was very for them to embrace technology," she said.

Benabides said that by the business already as the business' success was and the past facts review and preview the meeting.

## There are at least 23 reasons to smile about even in the most difficult of times.

This year ABS-CBN and Ugal Foundation honor 23 ordinary Filipinos who took it as their responsibility to better the lives of their fellowmen. Their acts of kindness, even in the direst of circumstances, proved that neither poverty nor hardships could hinder a person to be of service to others.

All their stories are testaments that this country will be a better place to live in if we'll just find the hero within.

**GAWAD**  
GENY LOPEZ JR.  
BAYANING PILIPINO 2004

Hosts:  
**KORINA SANCHEZ & TED FALON**

Presenters (in order of appearance):  
**Sen. MAR ROXAS • LUCHI CRUZ-VALDEZ**  
**ANGELO CASTRO, JR. • KAREN DAVILA**  
**MARVIN AGUSTIN • ANGELIKA DELA CRUZ**  
**HENRY OMAGA-DIAZ • MIKEE COJUANCO-**  
**JAWORSKI • Ms. MARICEL BORIANO**  
**DOLPHY**  
and  
**Vice President NOLI DE CASTRO**

Performers (in order of appearance):  
**LUKE MJARES • BAYANG BARRIOS**  
**JETT PANGAN • MICHAEL CRUZ**  
**JIMMY BONDOC • NYDY VOLANTE • KYLA**  
and **Ms. KUH LEDESMA**

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**ABS-CBN**









Basilisa Quinsigamag@inquirer.com.ph

# Sunday **BIZ**

Business Features Editor Mangle Quinsigamag-Quinsigamag

## Hire the disabled and cut costs, disabled whiz urges

**MANILA CITY**—A disabled computer wizard has asked the government and private companies to help the workers of the disabled to help them cut operating costs and reduce the government's fiscal responsibilities.

Basilisa Quinsigamag, 27, director for Internet development at Web consultant Innoweb, Inc.,

said the country should also take advantage of the technology that enables employees to work from their homes.

"The real technological workers are people with disabilities who don't need to go to office," Magdang told the National Management Institute's annual Philippine conference here on Thursday.

"Isn't that a real benefit? Wouldn't that save millions of pesos if your workers don't require long traffic jams? They don't have any effect?"

Magdang is himself wheelchair-bound due to the debilitating Pompey disease but he was hailed at the 4th annual PMAP conference for succeeding in making Innoweb,

his company's leading Web consultancy firm.

Grace Mañalita, PMAP vice president, said companies are already adopting Magdang's proposal because global trade has already changed the way world business transacts with blood.

**Grace Mañalita, PMAP vice president, said companies are already adopting Magdang's proposal because global trade has already changed the way world business transacts with blood.**

**PMAP President** Magdang is a 11-year-old, wheelchair-bound computer whiz who has won several awards for his work. But the Internet director of Innoweb, based in the Philippines, is also a PMAP member in all personal management in his disabled workers.



"Half of me wants to escape, and make a few strokes. The other half knows that I only have a few hours to spare, and it's back to work, back to reality."



After the heat of beach weeks at Ayala Greenfield Estates, an exclusive residential community far enough from the big city, near enough to any corner. If you're been dreaming of playing golf everyday, this is a real place. A quick drive from Alabang will take you to a championship 18-hole golf course designed by world-renowned Robert Trent Jones Jr. With a minimal activation fee, each member automatically qualifies you to a share of the Golf & Tennis Club where the rest of the family can also indulge in modern amenities. Ayala Greenfield Estates, nothing away has never been this close.

### AYALA GREENFIELD ESTATES



by AYALA South Community





# Showcasing Negros craftsmanship once more

By Amy R. Bandy

ATTRACTION for visitors to the annual trade fair showcasing the best of Negros craftsmanship and design.

(Labeled as "Noble Revival" (meaning "reviving heritage"), the 1994 Negros trade fair boasts of the province's best and newest products.

Magnets collected over time, innovative products ranging from handwoven garments and silk-tye apparel, children's clothing, bags and shoes, to pots and pans, ceramic jewelry and handicrafts.

More than 26 exhibitors are participating in this two-day event being held at the Tripsa Center in Davao City.

The said fair concludes today. Capping the opening of the fair last night, 30 new Negros trade fair "Noble Revival" de Cebu, who commended the AFP for "promoting the Philippines as the land of heritage and entrepreneurship in the region."

"These trade fairs are not merely to increase grossing activity. They also serve as fields for marketing innovative Philippine products and services," said the AFP during the opening ceremony.

Sponsored annually by AFP



about 1998, these trade fairs aim to promote Negros products in the biggest market, outside the province itself, and promote a culture of productivity and technological upgrading among Negros SMEs.

To further encourage its mem-

bers to come up with new, innovative and innovative products, AFP established the Negros Academic Forum.

Academic Forum, which is a product design competition, aims to "encourage ingenuity, creativity and commitment of lo-

cal products in terms of product innovation and packaging, as to the innovation of new products."

Business is on the agenda, which means that

Highly acquired and most

commonly AFP members, the

business forum has become one

of the highlights of the annual

Negros trade fair.

It is also through this annual

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of the highlights of the annual

Negros trade fair.

pro or sold below at AFP's show-

rooms in Davao City.

Items for the 14th Negros

forum are the following:

Resource category: General

best items by Negros' Co-

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Gift category: accessories cat-

egory: jewelry box by Negros

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Table category: Gift items

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items, books and development

materials. It has also exhibited

products with various ap-

proaches and agencies.

From 17 members, AFP com-

posed of Negros, professionals

and entrepreneurs, some have

more than a hundred member ex-

hibitors.

And unlike, it is attended with

13 Manila-based Negros mem-

bers, who rose to the challenge of

celebrating the Negros province

where they grew up. It is the

most significant event in 1994.

The Negros economy, which

is now largely dependent on

tourism, is now recovering, slowly

but steadily. The club has about

100,000 members nationwide

and a thousand others, who were

initially dependent on the

Negros, Davao.

Stimulated by the Negros

League, these members provided

the Negros with an alternative

employment. They then set up

the House of Negros Foundation

to promote the Negros

and to provide for the

1994, which resulted in

AFP in 1995, gave back to

Negros, which is the

most significant event in 1994.

AFP's first trade fair was held

at the parking lot of a five-star

hotel in Davao City.

The Negros members who

founded the AFP include

Dr. Carlos L. Llaneta, Dr.

Carlos L. Llaneta, Dr.

Carlos L. Llaneta, Dr.

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## Hire the disabled ...

Continued

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# Unique meeting venues in the US, Canada, UK and Caliraya

By Sandra Garcia  
Contributor

THE MISTY rooms of the stylish old stone townhouse house the US can build a reputation for one meeting in a conference for up to 35 people.

They offer an excellent choice of music with the River Rooms featuring beach taking views of the River Thames (which according to The Financialist's set-up "will surely make going back to the office a little difficult" for the participants).

The hotel's Culture, a great venue for performing group

work and private parties, has been used for singing while viewing the property was built in 1803.

Thousands of barrels of wine and port lie along the floor that surround the Tower Room and the Chest Room.

The vaulted ceiling and columns are

filled with candles that light the room in a magical way, creating a unique setting for those parties like readers may, say parties and business parties, etc.

Stunning views can be seen from the River Rooms, up to 35 guests can enjoy view looking in the adjacent

ing Telling Room three, business and social groups can get their party on.

The River Rooms, a luxury hotel located 30 minutes from the Heathrow airport, is in Nightingale Lane, Richmond, Surrey TW9 1JL. Tel: 0181 830 4944. Fax: 0181 830 4949. Email: [info@psbank.com](mailto:info@psbank.com).

A company called Unique Venues offers business meeting facilities, conference centers, colleges, universities, hotels, theaters, entertainment centers, religious conferences, centers and other special places in the US, Canada and the UK. They offer unique venues that business

and meeting organizers may never have imagined possible.

Their venue database consists of 7,000+ business meeting facilities, including conference centers, meeting rooms and other unique business meeting facilities and venues.

The venue database is at the top meeting venue database, please visit [www.uniquevenues.com](http://www.uniquevenues.com).

Based on the choice of a meeting venue in Singapore, London, Japan, the Caliraya In-Creation Center, a new and a half hour drive from Manila.



| Deposit Amount (in Pesos) | Interest Rates (%) |          |        |
|---------------------------|--------------------|----------|--------|
|                           | 30 days            | 120 days | 1 year |
| 100,000 - 499,999         | 5.250              | 5.500    | 5.500  |
| 500,000 - 999,999         | 6.250              | 6.750    | 7.375  |
| 1,000,000 - 4,999,999     | 7.250              | 7.625    | 7.750  |
| 5,000,000 - 9,999,999     | 7.375              | 7.875    | 8.000  |
| 10 million and up         | 7.500              | 8.125    | 8.125  |

Interest rates are subject to change without prior notice. Rates are in peso unless noted and are for 12-month terms. Interest rates are subject to change without prior notice.

**Visit any of our 121 PSBank Branches nationwide.**

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ARTIST'S perspective of the garden

## Bridging the gap between convenience and open spaces

AFRO the first only take-up of the garden units in Serenita, a unique residential community featuring clusters of low to mid-rise condominiums in a garden setting, Ayala Land Inc. (ALI), the country's premier real estate developer, will soon be launching new sections that will have more garden view units.

"The market has embraced the concept of Serenita extremely well," says Rito Ragan, senior division manager of ALI. "In Serenita A, the garden units moved quickly and were all practically taken up within a few months after launch. This only emphasizes the need for a development that would bridge the gap between the demand for convenience of living close to places of work, school, and play and the lack of reasonably priced condominium in the city, yet consider green open spaces. Serenita units that compromise and bring together the best of both worlds—a home close to everyday convenience surrounded by gardens."

Set on a 12-hectare development site at the Bonifacio Global City as much as two-thirds of Serenita's total area is dedicated to open spaces, greenery, and landscaping. "It is because of the gardens that Serenita will be more desirable within the city, its escape from the hustle and bustle of the daily grind," Ragan noted. "And although everybody in Serenita will enjoy and benefit from the gardens, the experience will be all the more special from a garden unit which will have unobstructed views of Serenita's greenery and will bring the convenience right into your living room."

In the new sections to be launched, almost all the units will have a garden view. Serenita's attention was given to make sure that the buyers maintained the views of the gardens from the units. In addition, selected units will have special features such as wrap-around balconies (from three sides of the unit) and full-height glass in the master's bedrooms which will provide more spectacular views of the gardens. The Serenita's garden units that were very popular in Serenita A were selected and intensive are provided for all units that are now larger than those in Serenita A.

"The garden concept appeals most to families with growing children and older couples where children have freedom of their own," Ragan observed. "Parents will be able to enjoy watching their children run around and play freely, a simple joy that will be enjoyed in much greater at it should be. Other couples are attracted by the scenic and relaxing setting that will allow them to take walks and sit outside yet still be close enough for their children and grandchildren to visit." Serenita is a great place to place that blends new green in modern design and lifestyle. Indeed, however a house and a condo, the gardens are an integral and most defining feature.

For more info on Serenita, call 846-5600 or 846-8333, or email [serenita@ayalaland.com.ph](mailto:serenita@ayalaland.com.ph). You may also visit the Serenita Pavilion at the Global Bonifacio Global City, Taguig, Metro Manila or their website: [www.serenita.com](http://www.serenita.com).







SUNDAY,  
OCTOBER 3, 2004

Sunday **BIZ**

**B 5**

# 'Chicharong tahong' makes market debut

By Carmela Reyes  
PDI Central Luzon Desk

CITY OF MALOLOS—Bulacan, famous for its *chicharong baboy* (pork crackling) and *chicharong balat ng tilapia* (tilapia skin crackling), is now offering an alternative snack to patrons of local delicacies.

Chicharong tahong, cracklings made from mussels, made its debut during a food fair that presented 30 Tatak Bulakenyo products to the public in early September.

Chicharong tahong or tahong chips was created by members of the Women@Work Development Multi Purpose Cooperative Inc. based here.

Remedios Cruz, a former government employee who founded the cooperative in 2002, introduced the tahong chips to cooperative members.

Cruz says the cooperative introduced women in her community to livelihood, education and entrepreneurship activities.

The tahong chips come in 150 and 400-gram canisters and are sold for P35 and P70, respectively.



**ALING Remy** of Women@Work with her staff shows how the mixture of ground 'tahong' and its other ingredients are flattened, cut and fried.

CARMELO REYES

Cruz says their regular customers include various resorts and restaurants in Bulacan and Pampanga, shop owners in bus terminals, and office and hospital canteens in Metro Manila and Olongapo City.

Their cooperative earns between P5,000 and P8,000 a week selling tahong chips and other products like spicy fish crunch, fish teriyaki, sweet and spicy tamarind and peanut crunchies.

Cruz says the Christmas season gives their cooperative brisk sales as orders from various offices pour in.

The WWDMPCI has 137 registered members who contribute P20 to P500 as capital to finance and run their organization and their food business.

She says the cooperative's seven regular staff members earn an average of P2,000 a month each in producing their products.

The cooperative plans to develop food products that will be marketed by each Bulacan town.

Cruz says the City of Malolos would market tahong chips.

The group is now starting to prepare a product derived from bangus cultured in Hagonoy town.

Earlier, Fisher Farms Inc., a subsidiary of FeedMix Nutrition Specialist, introduced the cholesterol-free *chicharong balat ng tilapia*.

Noel Malibiran, a Fisher Farms official, says they are now distributing *chicharong tilapia* to restaurants in Bulacan and Metro Manila.

For several years now, the towns of San Miguel, Baliuag, Sta. Maria, Bocaue, San Rafael, and Guiguinto have been known for their *chicharong baboy*.

The other products under the "Tatak Bulakenyo" are *atsarang dampalit*, *atsarang ampalaya*, *atsarang papaya*, sweet *macapuno*, sweet *langka*, sweet *garbanzos*, vinegar nectar, tomato jam, *bagoong alamang* and *bagoong isda*.

Other products are *tinapang tilapia*, catfish fillet, *lengua de gato*, *polvoron de pinipig*, chocolate drink, native *kakanin*, *pinipig de leche*, cassava cake, *sukang Bulacan*, fruit juice drink, honey bee products, bottled sardines and *pandesal de Baliuag*.

Gov. Josefina de la Cruz said the provincial government has asked the Department of Trade and Industry and the Department of Science and Technology in developing and marketing these products.







**USA** **USA** serves the West with  
Ambassador Winemakers Tannins

stream page 80



A photograph of three women standing close together and smiling. The woman on the left is wearing a dark, sleeveless top. The woman in the middle is wearing a dark blazer over a light-colored top. The woman on the right is wearing a dark, sleeveless top. They are all looking towards the camera.

I am so thankful to the many growers whose warm sunbath has helped me in my surprising oat quest. Despite the gas prices they spend on advertising, they've found a little more in their marketing budget to support the Abominable. Now that is truly The Good Thing.

I had no such luck. The Romanist events in my home town, which ended, fully dancing, with two guests, which seemed a noisy occurrence in the American living room. Through the studies, were too simple for my taste (no history and sociology), they were elegant.

FOLBRE, David and HANAUER, Dorian. David  
Sumner-Jones, Justin Moore and Nina Jackson









NEW Colony by Miguel Boudier and Colleen Lopez



At FRESCO is a Victoria by Andy Paquet Probst and Marlene Voepert Probst

Text by Kim Y. Virgores  
Photos by Chito Probst

WHAT happens when some of the country's top interior and furniture designers team up with Manila's foremost party networks? The result is a new party address where celebrations are as colorful and as tailored as the lands they were inspired from.

Bouquet's guests are usually glued by the beauty of its lush and inspired items in its ongoing "Theme Entertainment's Month" on the fourth level of its Makati branch. The exhibit houses seven exhibits by the likes of its Rich, Miguel Boudier, Andy Paquet Probst, Evan Reyes, Benj. Torres, Lynn Wilson, Benj. Wilson, John Vignery and Dorey Toledo.

Apart from their design aesthetics, the six parties are inspired by such places as China, Mexico, New Orleans, Japan, England and even Indonesia. Designers were asked to give their respective takes based on selected themes. Like in previous exhibits, almost every featured item was sourced from Bouquet.

It probably takes a paragon to guide into the mind of a party designer. As if the talent alone and designers weren't enough, Bouquet's tapped "support" such as frequent lifestyle's Dorey Toledo, Marlene Voepert Probst, Colleen Lopez, Benj. Wilson, Chito

# New party address

Top Manila designers and party animals conspire to lay out the perfect event zone

Probst and Marlene Voepert Probst.

Each woman collaborated with an artist in order to come up with a setting, but where did and how they found it.

Probst, for instance, teamed with Kim to create a Moroccan house, never mind if it's a single-line artist from Bouquet.

"The display is a miniature of culture that can be Moroccan, African and Spanish," says Kim. "We explored the whole concept of what Morocco is all about, but at the same time we wanted something that stood out."

Then, she and traditional Moroccan artist came way to brighter shades, which is achieved as a typical garden Kim himself designed. Three tables of varying sizes mirror the garden's color and design.

## Facing

"The stage of color basically are two. It's not presenting," he adds. "It's meeting and changing."

The problem was Kim couldn't find any items from Bouquet. This didn't stop him, however, as he made use of "Moroccan-looking" items from Turkey, India and various countries in Europe. For color, he used a variety of items, including a table with a red and white pattern, which also, Bouquet's representative.

Wilson, who teamed up with Bouquet, also worked from the traditional but by giving the traditional stage concept of the same style. He also worked with Bouquet with floral arrangements that resembled a lot of anything but Bouquet. Even the look of Bouquet's modern look to it.

Boudier and Lopez also work Bouquet's style. That's why in line of the traditional, the two modernized and gold-colored of red, gold and white. The modern look is more modern, so the two modernized and gold-colored of red, gold and white. The modern look is more modern, so the two modernized and gold-colored of red, gold and white.

"The green, which was taken from one of my books, because the setting piece," says Boudier. "The look is colorful. It will be a blend of colors of your typical Chinese display. As the same time we didn't go for the like the traditional."

At the opposite end of the Design spectrum is Bouquet's Probst with a display featuring such ornate and porcelain pieces designed by a Dutch artist. Another table covered with the same lace tablecloth as the same line with



HARD Glamour by Benj. Wilson and Chito Probst

table completes the look. Floral-colored looks are also the look of the same. The items, though, are and colors are from various of items, as the setting is the same.

"It's my idea of a Moroccan inspired in green," he says. "I wanted it to be a little bit of a green, which was inspired by the same style. A flower setting was one of the options and it looked like a flower."

Probst takes on a New Orleans theme, also with a table. The same, however, is placed with such options as gold, green and gold to create a sense of "inspiration." While he made use of Bouquet's items, he

and Bouquet to achieve a look. Kim took, for instance, took care of the display's final arrangements.

"To center up with the foundation," says Kim. "And to give the look a modern look."

The party was at Bouquet's Makati office on Oct. 2. The location is inspired and "party" are encouraged to buy gift items for themselves. Gift items are as numerous as the actual items found in the department store.

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MODERN worked by Kim Rich and Benj. Wilson-Probst



POLYMER party by Benj. Wilson and Lynn Wilson



REDOL built by Benj. Wilson, Chito Vignery and Benj. Wilson













## The movie theater in my mind

The new Shangri-La Cineplex at the Shangri-La Plaza boasts of state-of-the-art cinemas and the most comfortable seating imaginable.



**PREPARED:** heavier patrons can have cocktails at this lounge while waiting for the next performance.

**N**OW, one doesn't have to go all the way to Miami for a first-class moviegoing experience. After a year of retooling, the much-awaited Shang Cinema at the Shangri-La Plaza has reopened and now boasts of state-of-the-art movie theaters equipped with the latest audio/visual technology and the most comfortable seating imaginable.

The chemical innovation was in line with the mill's overall modernization plans, to ease its now-changing demands and tastes of the mill-going crowd. Hence, the millworkers didn't stop with the facilities, but with a new logo and new color scheme of red, blue, yellow and black for a modern and clean look.

The prestigious firm of SP & Thomson, Architects Co., found a way to combine form and function in their redesign of the structure.

[More choices](#)[illegible]

As architect Renzo Guadagnone explains the concept: "In the cinema business, size (being big) is not necessarily a built-in advantage. Being in the comfort zone is the wish for the developing public to be at ease in the thing cinema." Hence, theater capacity was decreased and instead the seat pan was increased.



harvest most, as they age, while away time is the private house located at the entrance. Here, you can munch on pet-maturing oak with and have about on plate another an apple.

### Best equipment

Now for the viewing experience. Shallow and the best cinema projection happens to be the Vision Cinema, which is Scaphio's most United Brand in film projection systems. During all the way back to 2000. Consequently, this is the best cinema system considered by leading cinema exhibitors as the best projection surface, providing high contrast, bright, sharp and clear pictures and generous viewing angles. Moreover, any one in the house gets an excellent experience.

the procedure with increased FX output pumped up by the creative amplifiers from QMC, a globally recognized leader in audio manufacturing. The acclaimed QMC live-to-tape speakers retain their defining equalizer and, as to the audience.

Just be constantly on the look, the thing Chicago is kind of a trap. All the Chicago bars and almost all the schools are, and it's a bit of a trap to accommodate the width of a beach bar for every man. But, each place has its own set of problems, so you must make sure if you have to go during the movie.

But once you smile into your self, watch  
 out, you won't even want to get up again. It  
 just reflects and when because there's nothing  
 there to do but when the show is the show.

**UNMATCHED QUALITY.** One of the leaders in the restaurant industry, Le Pigeon features custom-type seating, carefully done in Mass. Not leather and only comfortable dining.

**SUNDAY CROSSWORD**

## PREMIER CROSSWORD by Frank A. Longo

### HEAVY LIFTING

|           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |             |
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**BULACAN MADE** art and crafts. Here's a peek from Manila, jewelry and leather goods from Pampanga, pottery products and furniture made by carving, hand painting and more in Iloilo.



BULACAH Inveniges, Cissatide Exaltente Tablets and Orinital Lint  
Exaltente and Cissatide 1000mg, both in their own packaging  
Inveniges in "Tolax Substante" within 1M Die Marlon.

## Exhibit showcases Bulacan's history, culture

SM City Mallin presented recently the "Bank Ekalaka" exhibit as part of the Linggo ng Daluman 2004 festival.

The exhibit, a project of the provincial government of Bolivia, was organized by the Bolivian Tourism Council with IMA One Mexico.

Indonesian Gov. Iqbal Nuh in Gura, Vanuatu. Nuh, Minister and Minister Mayor Jose Callescano attended the opening ceremonies of the exhibit that showcased the province's history and religious tradition, as well as culture, design and architecture.

"*Unos Políticos*" put on lights the lives of Manuel El del Film, the great propagandist, and the hero of Vidal Iba, Gregorio del Film. Also featured were historical

other such as Bahrneg, a major Kampuchean battlefield, and the Pailin Massacre, where Gen. Sontha Agnonsith was killed while waging war against Sihanouk.

Cebu, Manila, Iloilo, and Zamboanga. In Cebu, Manila, Iloilo, and Zamboanga—on the Eastern Church, where the first Philippine Congress was held.

Maligrem got a glimpse of "Karelin, my Canadian friend," "Seymour, my Ontario football friend" and "Libal



POTTERY FRAGMENTS is a 12a course as evidenced by many students.

"Jack Nicholson" past release is a previous's president at this. He is now National Order Just Age, Ernest Roderick and National Order influence Talent too.

The exhibit also showcased Balkan's terms, jewelry and pottery, as well as food like sauteng (meat's tips), sautenged guthansa (chick meat), roasted lamb's and steaks, tomato jam, bee honey and chick peeps, ampelars and ampels.



**ENTERTAINMENT** new events. Part of Baidu's products in the local markets—events and distribution, Telling China (novels) written by Wang Wei, and others in the